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501.33873VC4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

KAWAGOE, et al.

Application No.:

10/014,405

Filed:

December 14, 2001

For:

PROCESS FOR MANUFACTURING A SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER, A SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER, PROCESS FOR MANUFACTURING A SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUIT DEVICE, AND SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED

CIRCUIT DEVICE

Group:

Not Yet Assigned

Examiner:

Not Yet Assigned

UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 AND § 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

March 12, 2003

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a copy of an Office Action, and copies of documents cited therein, in connection with a Japanese application corresponding to the above-identified application. Also enclosed is a List, on a form substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, of the enclosed documents. Further enclosed are English Abstracts of each of the documents cited in the enclosed Office Action, these cited documents being in Japanese.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Clearly, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(b) are satisfied.

In any event, the following Statement is made under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1):

MAR 17 2003

Each item of information contained in this Information

Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

To the extent that the documents cited in the enclosed Office Action are not in English, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by the enclosed English Abstracts.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97 and § 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with cited documents on the enclosed List. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135

(Case No. 501.33873VC4) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit

Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
AA						
AB						
AC						
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Document Number Date Country	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation /Abstract		
				Yes	No		
AM	64-065865	3/13/89	Japan			X	
AN	63-102370	5/7/88	Japan			X	
AO	60-132358	7/15/85	Japan			X	
AP							
AQ							
AR							
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AU	Copy of Office Action, dated February 12, 2003, for corresponding JP Application No. 6-265529
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AW	
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Examiner	Date Considered

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